

THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA, LAUNCHED A FULL-SCALE ATTACK ON THE CONFERENCE BY ACCUSING CUBA OF TRYING TO TURN THE ORGANIZATION INTO A TOOL OF SOVIET POLICY HAD FAILED.

HE SAID CUBA WAS NOT TRYING TO IMPOSE ITS RADICAL VIEWS ON ANYONE AND PROMISED TO USE PRUDENCE AND FLEXIBILITY IN HIS FORTHCOMING THREE-YEAR-TERM AS CHAIRMAN. 1
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17PM-SUMMIT 2 HAVANA 1

DR CASTRO'S BITTER ACCUSATIONS THAT EGYPT HAD BETRAYED THE ARAB CAUSE AND ITS OWN PEOPLE BY SIGNING THE PEACE TREATY WITH ISRAEL, AND HIS DECISION TO ALLOW EGYPT THE RIGHT OF REPLY, SPARKED AN UNSCHEDULED DEBATE ON THE MIDDLE EAST.

WHAT HAD BEEN INTENDED AS A FORMAL PUBLIC OPENING DAY TURNED INTO A SOMETIMES ANGRY DEBATE AT THE START OF THE FIVE-DAY SUMMIT, THE FIRST TO BE HELD IN LATIN AMERICA.

EGYPT'S CHIEF DELEGATE, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS DR BOUTROS BOUTROS GHALI, SAID HE THOUGHT PRESIDENT CASTRO HAD NOT ACTED CORRECTLY AS CHAIRMAN IN GIVING OTHER REPRESENTATIVES -- THEY INCLUDED SPEAKERS FROM SYRIA, PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) AND IRAN -- THE RIGHT TO JOIN IN A DEBATE AFTER HE HAD DEFENDED HIS COUNTRY'S POLICY. 1
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THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATE SAID HIS RIGHT OF REPLY SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE END OF THE MATTER.

ASKED WHETHER HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT UNDER DR CASTRO'S CHAIRMANSHIP, HE REPLIED: "IF THE MAJORITY SPEAKS UP THERE WILL BE NO CONCERN, BUT IF IT REMAINS A SILENT MAJORITY THERE WILL BE CONCERN."

IN A MESSAGE TO THE SUMMIT, ROMANIAN PRESIDENT NICOLAI CEAUESCU, WHOSE COUNTRY HAS TAKEN AN INDEPENDENT LINE WITH THE COMMUNIST WARSAW PACT, SAID THE MOVEMENT HAD "A HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT MISSION IN SECURING FRUITFUL AND ACTIVE COOPERATION AMONG ALL COUNTRIES, WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION OVER THEIR SOCIAL REGIME OR OPINIONS ABOUT THE TYPE OF SOCIAL ORGANIZATION IN THE FUTURE."

THIS WAS VERY CLOSE TO THE LINE TAKEN BY 87-YEAR-OLD PRESIDENT TITO, CONFERENCE OBSERVERS SAID. 1
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